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From: richard mizner [REDACTED]
Sent: 9/1/2012 10:05:12 PM
To: Han, Linda (DPH) [/O=COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS/OU=MassMail-01/cn=Recipients/cn=Linda.Han]
Subject: from story dated sept 1 boston .com

BOSTON—State officials have suspended two executives at a Massachusetts crime lab whose chemist is accused of mishandling drug evidence.

The Hinton State Laboratory Institute in Boston was closed Thursday after state police say they discovered that the chemist failed to follow testing protocols, potentially exposing thousands of drug convictions to legal challenges. The lab certified drug evidence in cases submitted by local police from around the state.

The Massachusetts Attorney General's office is conducting a criminal investigation. Police have not named the chemist, and she has not been charged.

The Department of Public Health said Saturday the division director responsible for the lab's management has been placed on leave pending the outcome of the investigation.

State police say another supervisor responsible for overseeing the work of the chemist has also been placed on leave.■